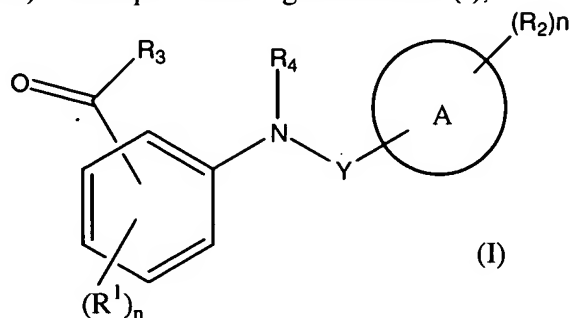


In the Claims:

Please amend the claims, so that the following list is a clean version of the pending claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound having the formula (I),

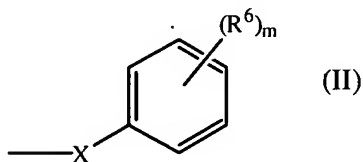


a N-oxide form, stereochemical isomer, racemic mixture, salt, prodrug, ester or metabolite thereof,

wherein

A is aryl, heteroaryl or heterocycloalkyl;

R¹ represents hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, nitro, alkyl, alkyloxy, or a radical of formula (II),



R² represents alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxy, halogen, nitro, cyano, amino, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl, R⁸-O-, R⁸-S-, R⁸-S(=O)₂-, R⁸-C(=O)-, R⁸-C(=S)-, R⁸-C(=NH)-, R⁸-C(=NCN)-, R⁸-NH-, (R⁸)₂-N-, HO-C(=O)-, NH₂-C(=O)-, NH₂-S(=O)₂-, NH₂-C(=S)-, NH₂-C(=NH)-, NH₂-C(=NCN)-, R⁸-NR⁴-C(=O)-, R⁸-NR⁴-S(=O)₂-, R⁸-O-C(=O)-, R⁸-C(=O)-NR⁴-, R⁸-S(=O)₂-NR⁴-, R⁸-C(=O)-O-, R⁸-S-CH₂- or R⁸-O-CH₂-C(=O)-;

R³ represents hydroxy, amino, alkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy or mono- or disubstituted amino ~~whereby~~ wherein the substituents can be selected from alkyl and cycloalkyl;

R⁴ represents hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R^6 is hydrogen, amino, R^7 -C(=O)-, R^8 -S(=O)₂-NH-, R^8 -C(=O)-NH-, R^8 -C(=S)-NH-, R^8 -C(=NH)-NH-, R^8 -C(=NCN)-NH-, R^8 -O-C(=O)-NH-, R^8 -O-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-, R^8 -alkanediyl-S(=O)₂-NH-, aryl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-, aryl-alkenediyl-C(=O)-NH-, heteroaryl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-, cycloalkyl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-, heterocycloalkyl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH- or substituted alkyl ~~whereby~~ wherein the substituents can be selected from amino, R^7 -C(=O)-, R^8 -S(=O)₂-NH-, R^8 -C(=O)-NH-, R^8 -C(=S)-NH-, R^8 -C(=NH)-NH-, R^8 -C(=NCN)-NH-, R^8 -O-C(=O)-NH-, R^8 -O-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-, R^8 -alkanediyl-S(=O)₂-NH-, aryl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-, heteroaryl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-, cycloalkyl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH- and heterocycloalkyl-alkanediyl-C(=O)-NH-;

R^7 represents hydroxy, amino, alkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy or mono- or disubstituted amino ~~whereby~~ wherein the substituents can be selected from alkyl and cycloalkyl;

R^8 represents alkyl, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or heterocycloalkyl;

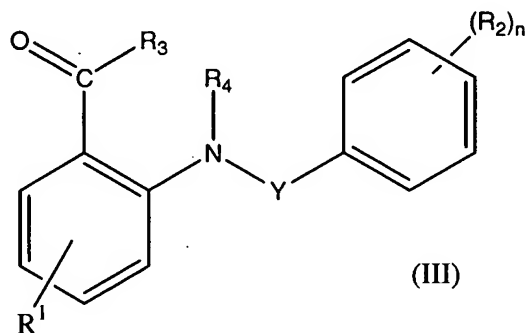
Y represents alkanediyl, -C(=O)-, -C(=S)-, -C(=NH)-, -C(=NCN)-, -S(=O)-, -S(=O)₂-, -C(=O)-CH₂-O-, -C(=O)-O-, -C(=O)-(CH₂)_p-, -C(=O)-NH- or -alkenediyl-C(=O)-;

X is a direct bond, -O-, -S-, -S(=O)₂-, -O-S(=O)₂-, -S(=O)₂-O-, -NH-S(=O)₂-, -S(=O)₂-NH-, -C(=O)-, -C(=S)-, -C(=NH)-, -C(=NCN)-, -O-C(=O)-, -C(=O)-O-, -NH-C(=O)-, -C(=O)-NH- or alkanediyl;

m and n are each independently zero, one or two; and

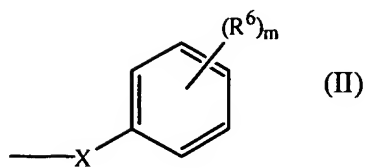
p is an integer from 1 to 4[[:]].

2. (currently amended) A compound having the formula (III),



a N-oxide form, a stereochemical isomer, racemic mixture, salt, prodrug, ester or metabolite thereof, wherein

R^1 represents halogen, hydrogen or a radical of formula (II),



R^2 represents alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxy, halogen, nitro, cyano, amino, haloalkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocycloalkyl, R^8-O- , R^8-S- , $R^8-S(=O)_2-$, $R^8-C(=O)-$, $R^8-C(=S)-$, $R^8-C(=NH)-$, $R^8-C(=NCN)-$, R^8-NH- , $(R^8)_2-N-$, $HO-C(=O)-$, $NH_2-C(=O)-$, $NH_2-S(=O)_2-$, $NH_2-C(=S)-$, $NH_2-C(=NH)-$, $NH_2-C(=NCN)-$, $R^8-NR^4-C(=O)-$, $R^8-NR^4-S(=O)_2-$, $R^8-O-C(=O)-$, $R^8-C(=O)-NR^4-$, $R^8-S(=O)_2-NR^4-$ or $R^8-C(=O)-O-$;
 R^3 represents hydroxy, amino, alkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy or mono- or disubstituted amino ~~whereby~~ wherein the substituents can be selected from alkyl and cycloalkyl;

R^4 represents hydrogen, alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R^6 is hydrogen, amino, $R^7-C(=O)-$, $R^8-S(=O)_2-NH-$, $R^8-C(=O)-NH-$, $R^8-C(=S)-NH-$, $R^8-C(=NH)-NH-$, $R^8-C(=NCN)-NH-$, $R^8-O-C(=O)-NH-$, R^8-O -alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$, R^8 -alkanediyl- $S(=O)_2-NH-$, aryl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$,

heteroaryl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$, cycloalkyl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$,

heterocycloalkyl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$ or substituted alkyl ~~whereby~~ wherein the substituents can be selected from amino, $R^7-C(=O)-$, $R^8-S(=O)_2-NH-$, $R^8-C(=O)-NH-$, $R^8-C(=S)-NH-$, $R^8-C(=NH)-NH-$, $R^8-C(=NCN)-NH-$, $R^8-O-C(=O)-NH-$,

R^8-O -alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$, R^8 -alkanediyl- $S(=O)_2-NH-$,

aryl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$, heteroaryl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$,

cycloalkyl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$ and heterocycloalkyl-alkanediyl- $C(=O)-NH-$;

R^7 represents hydroxy, amino, alkyloxy, cycloalkyloxy or mono- or disubstituted amino ~~whereby~~ wherein the substituents can be selected from alkyl and cycloalkyl;

R^8 represents alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or heterocycloalkyl;

Y represents alkanediyl, $-C(=O)-$, $-C(=S)-$, $-C(=NH)-$, $-C(=NCN)-$, $-S(=O)-$, $-S(=O)_2-$, $-C(=O)-CH_2-O-$, $-C(=O)-O-$, $-C(=O)-(CH_2)_p-$;

X is a direct bond, $-O-$, $-S-$, $-S(=O)_2-$, $-O-S(=O)_2-$, $-S(=O)_2-O-$, $-NH-S(=O)_2-$,

$-S(=O)_2-NH-$, $-C(=O)-$, $-C(=S)-$, $-C(=NH)-$, $-C(=NCN)-$, $-O-C(=O)-$, $-C(=O)-O-$, $-NH-C(=O)-$, $-C(=O)-NH-$ or alkanediyl;

m and n are each independently zero, one or two; and

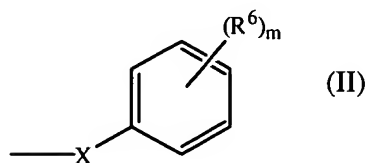
p is an integer from 1 to 4[;].

3. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ and wherein Y is -C(=O)-, or -S(=O)₂-.

4. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ and wherein X is $[[a]]$ -NH-S(=O)₂, -S(=O)₂-NH-, -NH-C(=O), or -C(=O)-NH-.

5. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ and wherein R² is halogen, bromo, chloro, alkyl, alkyloxy haloalkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl, said substituents being in meta or para position; and n is 1.

6. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ and wherein R¹ is formula (II),



each R⁶ is independently R⁷-C(=O)-, R⁸-S(=O)₂-NH-, or R⁸-C(=O)-NH-, said substituents R⁶ are adjacent; in meta and para positions, or in ortho and meta positions; m is 2,

R⁷ is hydroxy, or alkyloxy;

R⁸ is aryl substituted with one halogen, bromo, chloro alkyl, alkyloxy haloalkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl, said substituents in meta or para position.

7. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any one of claim~~ $[[s]]$ 1 ~~to 6~~, wherein said compound is a monomer.

8. (currently amended) A compound as claimed in ~~any one of claim~~ $[[s]]$ 1 ~~to 6~~, wherein said compound is a dimer.

9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) ~~A method The use of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament capable of inhibiting the entry process of the HIV virus into a mammalian host cell, comprising administering to a mammal a medicament, wherein said medicament comprises a compound as claimed in claim 1.~~

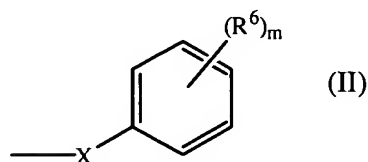
11. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition containing a therapeutically effective amount of ~~an active ingredient~~ a compound as claimed in ~~any one of claim[[s]] 1 to 8~~ and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

12. (new) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein Y is $-C(=O)-$, or $-S(=O)_2-$.

13. (new) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein X is $-NH-S(=O)_2-$, $-S(=O)_2-NH-$, $-NH-C(=O)-$, or $-C(=O)-NH-$.

14. (new) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein R^2 is halogen, bromo, chloro, alkyl, alkyloxy haloalkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl, said substituents being in meta or para position; and n is 1.

15. (new) A compound as claimed in claim 2 wherein R^1 is formula (II),



each R^6 is independently $R^7-C(=O)-$, $R^8-S(=O)_2-NH-$, or $R^8-C(=O)-NH-$, said substituents R^6 are adjacent; in meta and para positions, or in ortho and meta positions; m is 2,

R^7 is hydroxy, or alkyloxy;

R^8 is aryl substituted with one halogen, bromo, chloro alkyl, alkyloxy haloalkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl, said substituents in meta or para position.

16. (new) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein said compound is a monomer.

17. (new) A compound as claimed in claim 2, wherein said compound is a dimer.
18. (new) A method of inhibiting the entry process of the HIV virus into a mammalian host cell, comprising administering to a mammal a medicament, wherein said medicament comprises a compound as claimed in claim 2.
19. (new) A pharmaceutical composition containing a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as claimed in claim 2 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.